

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Previously Presented) An information processing system, comprising:

a first computing device configured to:

receive from a second computing device and a first local-area network a first information packet, the second computing device being configured to receive the first information packet from a global computer network, a first router and a second local-area network that bypasses the first local-area network; and

output a second information packet to the global computer network, such that the second information packet bypasses the second computing device.

2. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1 wherein the first computing device is configured to output the second information packet to the global computer network from the second local-area network.

3.-4. (Canceled)

5. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1 wherein the first computing device is further configured to receive a third information packet from the global computer network and the second local-area network.

6.-7. (Canceled)

8. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1 wherein the first computing device comprises a network interface card.

9. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1 wherein the first information packet originates from a client, and wherein the second computing device is coupled to the first router device and the global computer network to the client.

10. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 9 wherein the second information packet includes the first information packet and a reference to a data structure of a connection with the client.

11. (Previously Presented) A method performed by a first computing device of an information processing system, the method comprising:

receiving from a second computing device and from a first local-area network a first information packet, the second computing device receiving the first information packet from a global computer network, a first router and a second local-area network that bypasses the first local-area network; and

outputting a second information packet to the global computer network, such that the second information packet bypasses the second computing device.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11 wherein the method comprises:

outputting the second information packet to the global computer network from the second local-area network.

13.-14. (Canceled)

15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11 further comprising:  
the first computing device receiving a third information packet from the global  
computer network and the second local-area network.

16.-17. (Canceled)

18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11 wherein the first  
computing device comprises a network interface card.

19. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11 wherein the first  
information packet originates from a client, and wherein the second computing device is coupled  
to the first router device and the global computer network to the client.

20. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 19 wherein the second  
information packet includes the first information packet and a reference to a data structure of a  
connection with the client.

21. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11 wherein the first computing  
device outputs the second information packet to the global computer network from a second  
router.

22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11 wherein the first computing  
device outputs the second information packet to the global information network from the second  
local-area network and a second router.

23. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11 wherein the first computing  
device outputs the second information packet to the global information network from the second  
local-area network and the first router.

24. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11 wherein the second computing device comprises an intelligent network interface card.

25. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11 wherein the first computing device outputs the second information packet to the global computer network from a third local-area network.

26. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11 wherein the first computing device outputs the second information packet directly to the global computer network.

27. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1 wherein the first computing device is configured to output the second information packet to the global computer network from a second router.

28. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1 wherein the first computing device is configured to output the second information packet to the global computer network from the second local-area network and a second router.

29. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1 wherein the first computing device is configured to output the second information packet to the global computer network from the second local-area network and the first router.

30. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1 wherein the second computing device comprises an intelligent network interface card.

31. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1 wherein the first computing device is further configured to output the second information packet to the global computer network from a third local-area network.

32. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1 wherein the first computing device is further configured to output the second information packet directly to the global computer network.

33. (Currently Amended) A server farm, comprising:  
a first device;  
a second device;  
a first local area network coupled to the first device and to the second device; and  
a second local area network coupled to the first device and to the second device,  
wherein the first device is configured to receive an information packet from a global computer network and the first local area network and to forward the information packet to the second device from the second local area network and the second device is configured to bypass the first device when outputting a second information packet to the global computer network.

34. (Previously Presented) The server farm of claim 33 wherein the second computing device is configured to route the second information packet to the global computer network and the first local area network.

35. (Previously Presented) The server farm of claim 33 wherein the second computing device is configured to route the second information packet to the global computer network and a third local area network.

36. (Previously Presented) The server farm of claim 33 wherein the second information packet includes the first information packet and a reference to a data structure of a connection with a client.

37. (Previously Presented) A signal-bearing medium configured to:  
receive via a computing device and a first local-area network first information, the computing device being configured to receive the first information via a global computer

network, a first router and a second local-area network that bypasses the first local-area network;  
and

transmit second information to the global computer network by a signal path that  
bypasses the computing device.

38. (Previously Presented) The signal-bearing medium of claim 37 in  
which the signal-bearing medium is configured to receive the first information before  
transmitting the second information.

39. (Previously Presented) The signal-bearing medium of claim 37 in  
which the signal-bearing medium is a wire.

40. (Previously Presented) The signal-bearing medium of claim 37 in  
which the signal-bearing medium is a storage medium.